

Downtown set for 300 Block service and surface improvements

(Penticton – February 8, 2018) – Construction will soon be underway downtown as project planning and information campaigns are finalized in preparation of work getting started February 14 on the 300 Block service and surface improvement project.

The project plan involves spending nearly \$1,671,000 of the total \$2.185 million budget on upgrading the street's surface and underground services with new asphalt, raised intersections, sidewalks, curbs, water mains, storm sewers, street lighting, traffic signals and underground electrical. The remaining portion of the budget, representing \$464,000, or 22 per cent of the total cost, will go towards street beautification features including vendor power, trees, landscaping, irrigation, benches, bike racks and bollards.

"While the City is upgrading infrastructure both under and above ground, the property owners along the 300 block are also contributing \$299,960 to the streetscape and pedestrian experience improvements resulting in a cost effective way to continue the revitalization of downtown", said Penticton Mayor, Andrew Jakubeit. "The investment and vision to re-energize downtown is coming to fruition as there has been significant private investment to encourage people to live, work and play in the heart of our City".

Pedestrian access to businesses along the 300 Block will remain open throughout the project. City staff, members of the Downtown Penticton Association (DPA) and the contractor will be working closely with area businesses and residents to ensure any disruptions or direct impacts are communicated and mitigated quickly.

"This next phase in creating a more vibrant downtown will bring much needed upgrades to the 300 Block, and the Downtown Penticton Association will be closely collaborating with the City and business owners to ensure clear communications", says DPA Executive Director, Lynn Allin. "We want everyone to know that the 300 Block will be open for business throughout the construction period."

To stay informed on the progress of the project, business owners, shoppers and visitors to the downtown are encouraged to check for updates via the following websites - www.penticton.ca or www.downtownpenticton.org Regular updates can also be obtained by following either the City's or the DPA's Twitter and Facebook accounts.

Barring any setbacks related to weather delays, construction is scheduled to wrap up by June 15.

-30-

Contact:

Ian Chapman
City Engineer
250-490-2532